

OAKLAND~MAPLEVILLE FIRE DISTRICT OPERATING COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes JUNE 24, 2015

Opening:

The regular meeting of the Oakland~Mapleville Fire District Operating Committee was called to order at 7:02 pm on June 24, 2015 in the district fire station at 46 Oakland School St. Oakland, RI by Peter Leone, Clerk, acting as Moderator, due to the anticipated late arrival of Bob L'Esperance.

Present: Mike Cosetta, Richard Nolan, Albert Lavigne, Peter Leone, Patricia St.Pierre, Bob L'Esperance; Commissioners Tom Demers, Ed Bertholic, Warren Steere; Bob L'Esperance and Office Clerk Anne Chretien

Absent: Leigha Joyal, and Chief Joe Bertholic

A. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the May 27, 2015 meeting were sent to all members for review prior to posting on the RI Secretary of State's web-site.

Motion was made by Patricia St.Pierre to approve and waive the reading of the previous meeting minutes and seconded by Mike Cosetta.

Unanimously voted "Aye" by all present.

B. Commissioners Report

- OMFD member Lori Poirier completed the painting of the meeting room. She has done an outstanding job. Remaining painting projects to be completed are the three offices, radio room and the two utility rooms.
- The tractor used to mow the lawn needs to be brought to Norfolk Power Equipment for repair again. The belts need to be looked at and possibly replaced. There is only 21 hours of use with the mower. Peter Leone suggested we ask for the mower to be replaced by Norfolk. It was also discussed that care needs to be taken how the mower is used and should only be used to cut grass around the station itself and not in the field across the street.
- The floors are in the process of being stripped and waxed. The meeting room and back hallway have been completed so far.
- Motion to accept the Commissioners Report was made by Mike Cosetta and seconded by Richard Nolan.
- Unanimously voted "Aye" by all present.

C. Chief's Report

- Runs for the month were 45. (See attached report.)
- We are averaging 4 persons per run.
- Report read by Peter Leone, as the Chief was not at the meeting.
- Motion to accept the Chief's report was made by Al Lavigne and seconded by Mike Cosetta.
- Unanimously voted "Aye" by all present.

D. Tax Assessors Report

- N/A

E. Tax Collectors Report

- Collections from 9/1/2014 to 08/31/2015 which includes current and prior year taxes, and interest and fees totaled \$365,528.31 as of June 18, 2015. Outstanding balance to be collected is \$36,938.57. See attached report.
- Tax Sale List - The list of tax payers who are two years or more delinquent were presented to the committee now stands at 6 down from 38. The tax sale is scheduled for July 30, 2015.
- Motion to accept the Tax Collectors report was made by Mike Cosetta and seconded by Patricia St.Pierre.
- Unanimously voted "Aye" by all present.

F. Treasurers Report

- All bills are paid and up-to-date.
- It was noted by the Treasurer, that due to a mistake made by Chamberland & Co. when submitting our monthly tax payment to the State of Rhode Island in May for April's payment, the wrong amount was transmitted. The amount should have been \$690.03, but they submitted \$4,331.28. After discussions with Robbie Chamberland, it was decided that they would notify the State of RI regarding the overpayment and Chamberland & Co. deposited the difference of \$3,641.25 into the district's checking account. The Treasurer also had a discussion with our accountant, Jim Duggan, and he instructed that the re-payment to Chamberland & Co. be noted in the checking account register as follows: the monthly tax payments to the state will be noted on the memo line of the check and the payable line will reflect Chamberland & Co. on the appropriate date for the payment.
- Patricia St.Pierre, Treasurer reported that monies from the JM Scott-Capital Equipment account was transferred to RI Credit Union Checking Account and the account was closed out with JM Scott in the amount of \$168,392.60. Funds from

the Citizen Bank account were also transferred to RI Credit Union Checking in the amount of \$34,690.40. These amounts total \$203,083.00. This covers the cost for the purchase of the new rescue, as instructed by the operating committee.

- The treasurer also reported on the monies spent on the Forestry Truck and the Storage/Training facility under construction thus far. Forestry Truck totals \$14,576.83. Treasurer will look into the rates being paid on funds in the Capital Improvement- Equipment accounts so that a decision can be made next month as to where the monies will be transferred from to cover the costs. The Storage/Training facility totals \$8,140.16.
- Motion to accept the Treasurers Report as presented was made by Bob L'Esperance and seconded by Al Lavigne.
- Unanimously voted "Aye" by all present.

G. Old Business

- By-Laws committee did not meet this month.
- Forestry Truck Update- The lettering on the truck needs to be completed as does the wiring, lights to be added.
- Storage/Training Building Update- The trusses are in place and the floor for the second story. Progress is slow. Peter Leone volunteered to schedule a truck with a crane to be on the premises to lift the trusses into place for the roof. This will be coordinated by Colin Fenner notifying Pete a week before this task needs to be performed. This offer is still in place.
- NML Ins- G. Fournier. This insurance was a life insurance and expired after the accrued dividend ran out when the policy was not being paid by the district any longer. The district changed the program to a LOSAP program with VIFS. Bob L'Esperance looked into buying into LOSAP but it would cost a substantial amount to do so.
- Motion was made by Richard Nolan that due to the fact it was a life insurance that was carried on the named firefighter and that he had resigned at the time of the institution of the LOSAP program, the District was not obligated to buy time back in the LOSAP program on his behalf.
- Seconded by Mike Cossetta.
- Unanimously voted "Aye" by all present.
- Roof Ice Dams- Tom Demers met with the insurance adjuster to inspect the fire station roof. He indicated that there should be no problem covering the cost to repair the roof damage.

H. New Business

- Richard Nolan brought up the cost of processing the tax bills in the fall for the 2015 tax year versus outsourcing to Vision Gov. Solutions. This falls under his responsibility as the Tax Collector and not the board as a whole.
- Mike Cosetta was asked by Jim Martufi, a state officer with the St.Vincent de Paul Society of Rhode Island and OMFD tax payer, that a collection bin/receptacle be placed on the station property to help them raise money for the charity. Tom Demers expressed the Chief's desire to only have department related items on the property. It was discussed that in some cases these receptacles can cause clutter to be left around them and become an eyesore.
- Motion was made by Richard Nolan to deny the request to place a St.Vincent de Paul Society of Rhode Island receptacle on the OMFD property for the collection of clothing and other articles.
- Seconded by Patricia St. Pierre.
- The vote was as follows:
 - Patricia St.Pierre voted Aye
 - Richard Nolan voted Aye
 - Bob L'Esperance voted Aye
 - Mike Cosetta voted Nay
 - Al Lavigne voted Nay.
- The motion carries.
- Tom Demers said that Chief Joe Bertholic spoke with him regarding the possible sale of the boat, trailer, and motor that OMFD has in its possession. The equipment has never been used. The board does not have to take action on this possible sale as it is under the Commissioners area of responsibility. Mike Cosetta said he would like the Commissioners to rethink this action because of the number of water bodies in the district.
- Tom Demers discussed the possibility of taking down the pines on the property lines because they have become overgrown and in the way of maintaining the property. Richard Nolan requested that he check with the Town of Burrillville before removing them due to the fact they were planted as a buffer zone between the station and the abutting property owners. Tom said he will check with Joe Raymond, Building Inspector.

I. Public Comment

- Pat St.Pierre wanted to thank Lori Poirier for the outstanding job she did on the meeting room redo. Bob L'Esperance agreed and thought the bottom was real diamond plate and not wall paper.

J. Notifications and Announcements

- None

K. Adjournment

- **Motion** to adjourn the meeting at 8:11 pm was made by Mike Cosetta and seconded by Pat St.Pierre.
- Unanimously voted “Aye” by all present.

Minutes respectfully submitted by: Anne Chretien, Office Clerk